

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 092200
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT/LVA
APPROVED BY EUR:WHLUERS
C:IWOLF (SUBSTANCE)
S/S-O TMARTIN
EB:BSAMUELS
L/EUR:LDAMROSCHE

-----077025 110256Z /63

P R 110131Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092200

EXDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR/TOKYO ONLY FOR ASST. SEC. KATZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, US, CZ

SUBJECT: STATUS OF GOLD/CLAIMS AND EXCHANGES AGREEMENT
ISSUES

REF: (A) STATE 080867; (B) GLENN/FROWICK LETTER
(4/5/78)

1. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND YOUR DESIRE TO HAVE A CLEAR PICTURE
OF WHERE WE STAND ON THE ISSUES OF GOLD/CLAIMS AND THE
EXCHANGES AGREEMENT. WE ALSO SHARE YOUR INTEREST IN MOVING
AHEAD ON ONE OR BOTH IF WE CAN.

2. ON GOLD/CLAIMS, AS INDICATED EARLIER (REF A), FOLLOWING
QUESTIONS RAISED IN ATTEMPTING TO CLEAR OUR MEMO TO THE
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SECRETARY, WE ARE HAVING SERIOUS DIFFICULTY DECIDING ON
THE BEST LINE OF APPROACH IN THE WAKE OF YOUR MARCH 2ND
MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN LONG. WE ALSO HAVE COME TO THE
REALIZATION THAT, IN VIEW OF THE PRESSURE OF CURRENT ISSUES,
WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET THE SECRETARY TO INVOLVE HIMSELF
PERSONALLY IN THIS MATTER FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. AS
RESULT OF SEVERAL MEETINGS LAST WEEK, INCLUDING ONE ON

APRIL 5 INVOLVING LUERS, MARKS, AND JULES KATZ, WE HAVE DECIDED IT WOULD BE BEST FOR KATZ TO TAKE UP THE MATTER WITH LONG AND OUTLINE TO HIM OUR INTENDED NEGOTIATING

POSITION WITH THE GOC. OUR INTENTION ONCE AGAIN WOULD BE TO SEEK AT LEAST HIS TACIT APPROVAL BEFORE PROCEEDING. WITHOUT THAT, WE BELIEVE YOU WOULD ONLY BE LEFT IN AN UNTENABLE NEGOTIATING SITUATION. WE WOULD HOPE THIS MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS. IN THE MEANTIME, WE INTEND TO (A) REVIEW OUR NEGOTIATING POSITION EXTENSIVELY AND (B) CONSULT WITH UK AND FRENCH GOVERNMENTS TO GET UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON STATUS OF THEIR CLAIMS AGAINST GOC AND ATTITUDE OF CLAIMANTS, ON THEIR LIKELY RESPONSES WERE WE COMPELLED TO VEST THE GOLD, AND ON IMPACT SUCH AN ACTION WOULD HAVE ON THEIR CLAIMS. POINT OF THIS LATTER EXERCISE IS THAT INFORMATION AT OUR DISPOSAL NOW RE ATTITUDES OF UK AND FRENCH IS NEITHER CURRENT NOR VERY COMPELLING IN LIGHT OF LONG'S VIEW THAT OBJECTIONS OF OTHER TRIPARTITE COMMISSION MEMBERS TO VESTING WOULD BE MOSTLY PRO FORMA.

3. WE PLAN TO CONSULT FULLY WITH YOU ON ALL OF THIS AS WE PROCEED.

4. REGARDING QUESTION OF WHEN TO COMPLETE EXCHANGES AGREEMENT, WE ARE SPLITTING THIS ISSUE AWAY FROM CLAIMS/CONFIDENTIAL

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GOLD (NO LINKAGE WAS EVER INTENDED) AND REFERRING IT TO THE SEVENTH FLOOR FOR A DECISION.WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED ON THIS AS WELL. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOLD, AGREEMENTS, CLAIMS, PROGRESS REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE092200
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CWSCHMIDT/LVA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780155-0011
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780469/aaaacgyt.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1aa061b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 80867
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3004730
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF GOLD/CLAIMS AND EXCHANGES AGREEMENT ISSUES
TAGS: EFIN, US, CZ
To: PRAGUE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1aa061b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014